

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

June 6, 2016

The Honorable Gina McCarthy
Administrator
Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20460

RE: PennEast Pipeline Company, LLC; FERC Docket No. CP15-558-000

Dear Administrator McCarthy:

We are writing to express our concern regarding the perceived absence of an integrated approach for assessing the proposed PennEast pipeline.

As you know, as an interstate natural gas pipeline proposal, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) has a responsibility to coordinate its PennEast review with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as a cooperating agency to satisfy federal environmental review requirements under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). We therefore request that EPA, in reviewing the PennEast docket as a cooperating agency, assist FERC in meeting its NEPA obligations by implementing a series of measures to ensure compliance with federal guidelines.

Specifically we ask that your agency work with FERC to meet the NEPA requirements of a regional economic analysis of need. This analysis should account for changes in scheduling and delivery; demand response; efficiency; and renewables as potential alternatives to new construction. FERC must not solely accept precedent contracts as evidence of project need, just as simply assessing a private shipper's ability to profit does not satisfy FERC's mandate to consider the public interest.

Second, we ask that EPA retain vigilant oversight of the PennEast project, including providing continued support to the United States Army Corps of Engineers and New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection in fulfilling their respective obligations to fully implement all required protections for streams and wetlands.

We respectfully request to be kept apprised of EPA's communications with FERC regarding the PennEast Project going forward. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



LEONARD LANCE
Member of Congress



BONNIE WATSON COLEMAN
Member of Congress



MATT CARTWRIGHT
Member of Congress



MIKE FITZPATRICK
Member of Congress